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JOURNAL

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

Tuesday - 1 April 1969

1. (Secret - GLC) Met with Bill Woodruff, on the staff of the Senate Appropriations Committee, and left with him copies of the Daily News item of 28 March reporting on Senator Ervin's comments at the Bar Association meeting on Agency activity against S. 782 and the excerpt from Bill Monroe's interview with Senator William Proxmire (D., Wis.) in which reference was made to the size of the CIA's budget. I suggested that he might want to bring these to the attention of Senator Russell. I mentioned to Woodruff that we had not as yet received an answer to the Director's second letter to Senator Ervin regarding an opportunity to appear before his Subcommittee in executive session on S. 782 and added that we were attempting to talk with Senator John McClellan (D., Ark.) about the bill.

I left with Woodruff a copy of Senator Mike Mansfield's (D., Mont.) letter to the Director asking that we submit a draft bill codifying and updating Agency authority for the conduct of research and development. I asked Woodruff whether he knew if similar letters had been sent to the DoD or any other agency. He said he was not aware of this but that he would check on it. It was agreed that I would draft a rather general response to Senator Mansfield's letter and check it out within the next day or two.

2. (Secret - JGO) Met with Mr. Robert Michaels, House Appropriations Committee staff, and reviewed with him the press report of Senator Ervin's statements before the Federal Bar Association concerning CIA opposition to S. 782. Also reviewed with Mr. Michaels the transcript of the Proxmire interview on "The Today Show" of March 25 concerning congressional handling of the CIA budget.

I briefed Mr. Michaels on Soviet leadership problems, [redacted] and Soviet expansion of anti-submarine detection capabilities along the Siberian Pacific coast. [redacted]

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3. (Secret - GLC) Met with Ed Braswell, Chief of Staff, Senate Armed Services Committee, and gave him copies of the Daily News item containing Senator Sam J. Ervin's (D., N. Car.) remarks at the Federal Bar Association meeting about the Agency in connection with S. 782. I also gave him a copy of the excerpt of Bill Monroe's interview with Senator William Proxmire (D., Wis.) where reference was made to the size of the Agency budget. I suggested to Braswell that he might want to call these two items to the attention of Senator Stennis.

Braswell asked how things were going on the Ervin bill. I told him we have not as yet received a response to the Director's second letter in which he repeated his request for an opportunity to appear in executive session on the bill and that we were attempting to see Senator John McClellan (D., Ark.). Braswell said he thought that an approach to McClellan by anyone other than the Director would not accomplish its purpose in further discussion of our chances of success in getting an exemption from this bill. Braswell strongly urged that we concentrate our efforts on the members of the Ervin Subcommittee. He believes that it would be useless to try to block the bill or to obtain our exemption in full committee. In other words, Braswell feels unless we can accomplish our objectives in the Ervin Subcommittee, we might as well fight our battle in the House. He added that if we could get Senator McClellan and Senator Birch Bayh (D., Ind.) on our side they could accomplish our purposes for us.

I told Braswell that our people were maintaining contact with Marine Corps personnel regarding General Cushman's return and understood arrangements for his appearance in confirmation hearings were being handled directly by the Marine Corps. Braswell said he understood General Cushman would be available on the 15th of April.

4. (Secret - GLC) I happened to see Senator Stuart Symington (D., Mo.) who mentioned that Mr. Maury had been up to talk with him on the subject of recent comments on the size of the Agency's budget. The Senator said he was holding off on this but planned to discuss it with Senator Russell at the earliest opportunity. I acknowledged that this presented a problem but pointed out that the difficulty would be in trying to counter these statements without divulging critical information in the process. The Senator indicated that he agreed this was a problem but he plans to pursue it further.

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